

REMARKS

Claims 21 to 26 remain pending. Claims 27 to 35 have been added.

The section entitled "Amendments to the Claims" is intended to replace the corresponding section in the Amendment mailed September 11, 2003. The submission of the replacement section is deemed to fulfil the objection set forth in the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment.

Reconsideration of claims 21 to 26 is deemed warranted in view of the foregoing, and allowance of said claims as well as new claims 27 to 35 is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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